

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM



PROBABLE SL-1 PRODUCTION
RESUMES AT WUCHOU
SHIPYARD, KUEI CHIANG
CHINA

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PROBABLE SL-1 PRODUCTION RESUMES AT WUCHOU SHIPYARD KUEI CHIANG, CHINA

The Wuchou Shipyard Kuei Chiang has apparently resumed construction of the SL-1 logistics vessel (Figure 1) for probable use in North Vietnam.

This shipyard became operational in the spring of [REDACTED] and has consistently produced units which have subsequently been observed in the North Vietnamese logistics vessel inventory. The initial production effort of this shipyard was the SL-1. This program was apparently phased out some time between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Photographic coverage of [REDACTED] revealed the shipyard to be producing only North Vietnamese Type-40 POL barges.

25X1D

Photographic coverage of [REDACTED] revealed cargo vessels again being constructed at the shipyard (Figure 2). Five of these vessels were at the fitting-out wharves and three were on the building ways. The approximate length of each of these vessels was 125 feet, which coincides with the overall length of the SL-1.

Ground photography¹ has revealed a group of six probable SL-1 vessels heading south on the Pearl River in [REDACTED]. The grouping and direction of travel suggest that these vessels were in transit to the Gulf of Tonkin. Furthermore, from [REDACTED] the photographic count of SL-1 vessels in North Vietnam increased from 19 to 27.

25X1D

25X1D

These developments suggest that the cargo vessels seen at Wuchou in [REDACTED] are SL-1s, probably destined for use in North Vietnam. These additional units would raise the minimum probable number of SL-1 logistics vessels available for resupply and possible infiltration use to 35.

[REDACTED]

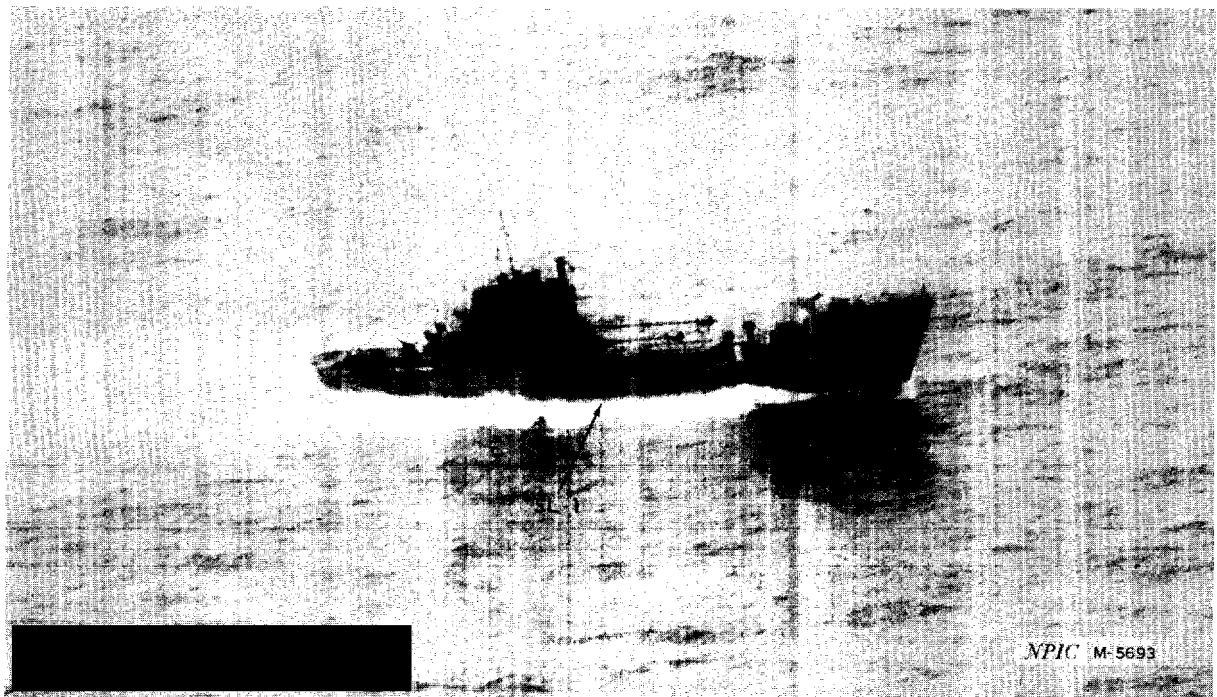


FIGURE 1. SL-1 LOGISTICS VESSEL.

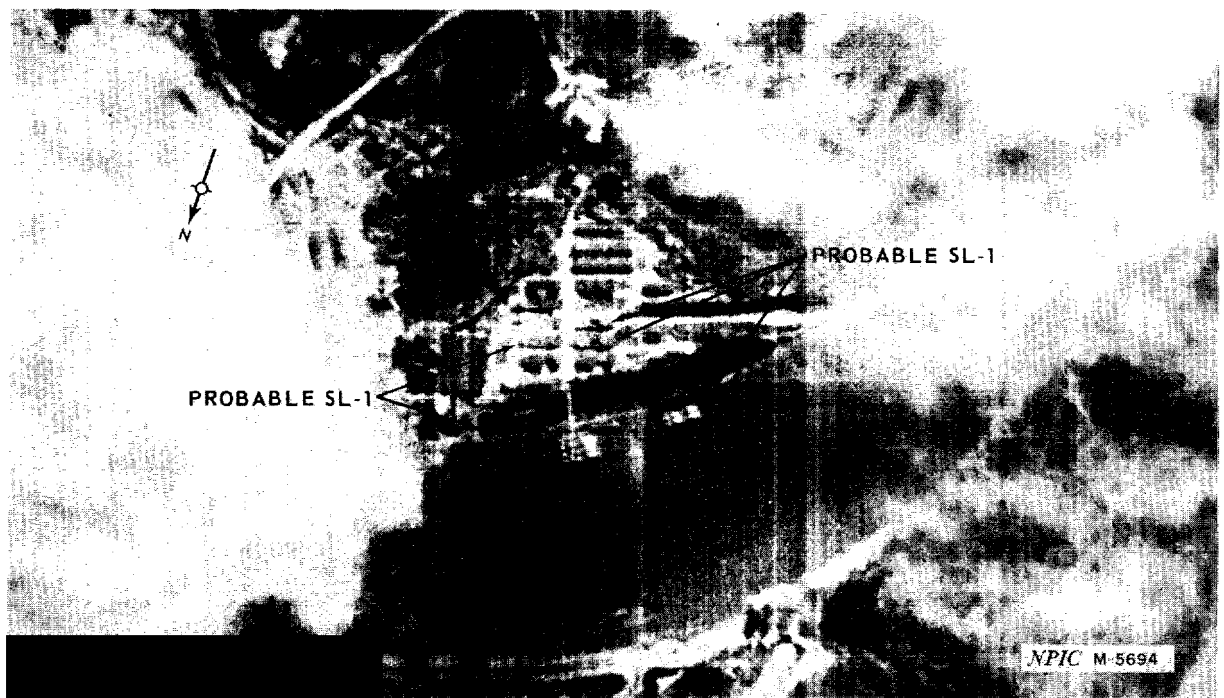


FIGURE 2. WUCHOU SHIPYARD, KUEI CHIANG, CHINA.

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